

August 15, 2011

RE: Proposed timber sale on State Land
All or parts of Section 16, Township 1N Range 58E

To Whom It May Concern:

The Eastern Land Office of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is in the initial planning and scoping phase of a proposed timber sale on the above mentioned section, located along the Stagville Draw road in Southeastern MT. This proposed timber sale is part of a program that manages forested State Trust Land for revenue to support public schools. The purpose of this letter is to identify issues and concerns as they relate to the proposed project. A brief description of the proposed action is listed below.

- Harvest approximately 150,000-300,000 thousand board feet of Ponderosa Pine over approximately 125 acres.
- Preliminary surveys indicate that the silvicultural treatment would be a selective harvest with an effort to reduce stocking levels to a more historic, pre-fire suppression stand density, while maintaining the current multi-age stand structure.
- No new road construction is anticipated. Approximately 1-3 miles of temporary spur roads would be necessary to accomplish the management objectives. These roads would be obliterated at the completion of use through ripping the road surface and seeding back to native grass species.
- 1-2 miles of existing road on State land would be used as designated haul route.

Please review the proposed action and provide comments on any issues or concerns by September 15, 2011. If more information is needed or an on-the-ground review desired please don't hesitate to contact me.

Please submit written comments or direct any questions to:

DNRC
Attn Andy Miller
P.O. Box 1794
Miles City, MT59301
(406) 232-2034

Thank you for your time and effort.

Respectfully yours,

Andy Miller
Forester, ELO